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April 19, 2006

51 STATE SCHOOLS TO COMPETE IN HIGH MILEAGE COMPETITION EVENT AT IRP

INDIANAPOLIS (April 20, 2006) Are you feeling the pain at the gas pumps these days? Are you looking for a car that gets 1,015.60 miles-per-gallon? While a car that gets that gas mileage maybe years in the future, it could be invented by Indiana school students that are competing in the Indiana Mathematics Science and Technology Education and Alliance (IMSTEA) Super Mileage Challenge at IRP, on Monday, April 24.

Students from across the state of Indiana will design, build and drive their vehicles around the .686-mile IRP oval in the competition. The cars will be in a Stock or Unlimited Class for judging. The students must pilot their cars for ten laps and average 15 miles-per-hour. Following the run the gas tank is weighed and mileage is calculated using a formula provided to each team. Teams may make as many runs as they wish and the best three attempts are averaged for their official result.

The winner in the Stock Class in 2005 was Mater Dei High School with a vehicle that was calculated to get 1,015.60mpg. Winamac Community High School took top honors in the Unlimited Class with 900.26mpg. "These students research, design, and construct prototype vehicles, applying what they learn in topics related to safety, control, geometry, aerodynamics, composite materials, fabrication techniques, and much more," said Mike Fitzgerald, technology education specialist with the Indiana Department of Education. All entrants use the same Briggs & Stratton engine, the Unlimited class may modify the engine and the stock engines are sealed.

Gates will open at 7:00 A. M. and the teams can start their runs at 8:30 A. M. and the track will close for competition at 3:30 P. M.

One of five drag racing facilities owned and operated by the National Hot Rod Association, IRP was built in 1960 and has presented organized racing events since 1961. From March through October, the facility hosts more than 120 dates of racing on three tracks, a quarter-mile drag strip, a .686-mile paved oval and a 2.5-mile road course. Home to drag racing's biggest event, the NHRA U.S. Nationals over Labor Day weekend, the drag strip runs more than 50 days of point-to-point action, from national events to street legal community programs. The oval track draws racing's biggest events, including annual visits from the NASCAR Busch, NASCAR Craftsman Truck Series and three annual USAC races. The road course provides a home for several racing sanctions, such as SCCA, while providing an ideal resource for driving schools, corporate outings and open-road tests for professional drivers.

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Schools scheduled to compete are:

- Avon High School
- Ball State University
- Belmont High School
- Bosse High School
- Buffalo Grove High School
- Carroll High School
- Carroll High School
- Cascade High School
- Chesterton High School
- Delta High School
- Eastern Greene H. S.
- Fairfield Jr./Sr. High School
- Fairfield Jr./Sr. High School
- Frontier Jr./Sr. High School
- Hagerstown Jr/Sr High School
- Homestead H. S.
- IVY Tech State College
- Jac-Cen-Del High School
- Jasper High School
- Kankakee Valley High School
- Lafayette Jefferson High School
- Mater Dei High School
- Mater Dei High School
- Mishawaka High School
- Mishawaka High School
- New Castle Area Vocational Schools
- North Daviess High School
- North Daviess High School
- North Montgomery High School
- Northview High School
- Northview High School
- Princeton Comm. High School
- PVETI
- Rensselaer Central High School
- Rochester High School
- South Newton High School
- South Spencer High School
- South Spencer High School
- Terre Haute South Vigo H. S.
- Terre Haute South Vigo H. S.
- Tipton High School
- Triton Central H. S.
- Warsaw Community H. S.
- Warsaw Community H. S.
- Wawasee High School
- Wawasee High School
- Whitko High School
- Whitko High School
- William Henry Harrison H. S.
- Winamac Community H. S.